



technology  
lessons 4  
teachers

school year

2010 - 11

# summer book of ideas vol. 1

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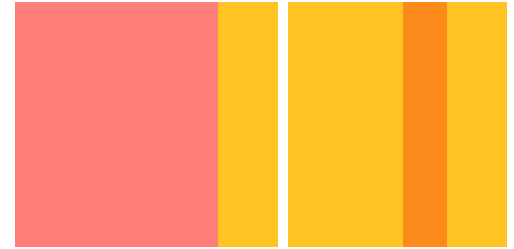
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## view online

To view this resources online at [LiveBinders](#) go to, [bit.ly/I16d0Y](http://bit.ly/I16d0Y). You can also view all the sites, apps, ActivInspire tips, & articles in an organized, easy to navigate setting from two years of the TL4T newsletter at [tl4t.wikispaces.com](http://tl4t.wikispaces.com).

# feature applications



## blabberize

[edu.blabberize.com](http://edu.blabberize.com)

Blabberize is very simply, a talking picture. You upload a photo, place & fit a red circle on the lower half of a jaw, record your message using your computer, & where the red circle was it will move to the sound of your voice. So, it may seem childish and silly with this flapping mouth moving up & down, but don't dismiss it until you've tried it.

It's simple, quick, easy, fun, & free to use. For students it is a good way to practice listening & speaking skills. It can make a speech or text come alive in an entertaining way. It can make students practice a new way to present to present themselves...in the first person perspective.

Ideas to try,

- Instructions for an assignment
- Students could complete a self portrait, & discuss the motivation behind their work
- Reflection on a project
- Teacher or students read a historic speech or poem
- A reader's theater activity



## go!animate 4 schools

[goanimate4schools.com](http://goanimate4schools.com)

Go!Animate, [goanimate.com](http://goanimate.com), & it's sister site Domo Animate, [domo.goanimate.com](http://domo.goanimate.com), are free animated moviemakers. With these websites you can create animations by selecting from a wide selection of customizable pre-made elements. They are great sites for teachers to add interest to a lesson, but they are blocked from our students due to inappropriate content.

Luckily, Go!Animate has heard & listened to many educators, & they have now released their newest website, Go!Animate 4 Schools. This website is designed with educators in mind. Register for an account with up to 100 accounts for free. It is a private & controlled environment where you set up & have access to student accounts. Easy-to-use animation tool, which allows you to create your own characters, add your own voice, or use the built in text-to-speech feature. Another great feature is you can share your animation & watch other teachers' animations in the lesson gallery.

Use these animations to aide with understanding for a particular topic, or for step-by-step instructions.

Check out these samples,

- **Go!Animate 4 Schools:** Global Warming – [bit.ly/hL0FmW](http://bit.ly/hL0FmW)
- **Go!Animate:** Newton's Law – [bit.ly/hMahss](http://bit.ly/hMahss)
- **Domo Animate:** I Have a Dream – [bit.ly/ebf2il](http://bit.ly/ebf2il)



Popplet combines online sticky notes with collaborative mind maps. So in other words, take Lino.it ([en.linoit.com/](http://en.linoit.com/)) (featured in Middle School Apps) & SpicyNodes ([www.spicynodes.org](http://www.spicynodes.org)) (featured in Feature Apps), mash them together, & you have Popplet. It allows you to create a wall of multimedia sticky notes, where you can add videos & images. Best of all, is that you can share and collaborate with others.

Popplet offers a bookmarklet that you can easily add to your bookmark toolbar, which allows you to add content from other webpages to your Popplet wall. Popplet also offers an option to connect your notes. Just click one of the small circles to connect to another popple. A Popplet wall is easy to embed in a website or blog.

Ideas for students to use in the classroom,

- Collect images & video that all tie to a topic
- Create a photo gallery
- Record their thoughts on a topic
- Explore lesson ideas
- Collaborate together on a mind map



## spicynodes

[www.spicynodes.org](http://www.spicynodes.org)

**SpicyNodes** is a new way to visualize information that mimics that way that people look for things. It creates a radial tree of information that include text, images, links, & video. They are placed into "nodes," which when clicked become larger. It links information together in an appealing interface. The data is formed in interconnected circles that invites exploration. It allows you to try the website without registering for an account, to help you in exploring the possibilities. Another great thing about this site, it has a walk through that shows you how to create a node in three steps, from choosing a style to editing content.

Classroom ideas,

- Students can create an interactive traditional mind map
- A content portal to organizational charts & lesson plans
- Instead of a PowerPoint, place notes on a SpicyNode
- A creative way to present & organize information



# elementary applications



## kids' zone

[nces.ed.gov/nceskids/index.asp](http://nces.ed.gov/nceskids/index.asp)

The National Center for Education Statistics hosts a collection of games & tools for students. On the NCES Kids' Zone students will find games, quizzes, & learning tutorials featured on the site.

*Create a Graph* provides students with five graphing tools & tutorials. The tutorials can be viewed online or downloaded in PDF format for printing. *Create a Graph* can be used to create simple graphs for most content areas. Graphs & charts are great because they communicate information visually.

*Dare to Compare* is a quiz section of Kids' Zone where students can test their knowledge of civics, economics, history, geography, mathematics, & science (600+ questions currently in database). After taking each quiz the students are shown the correct answers. *Dare to Compare* also allows students to see the national & international average rate of correct answers.

What many people refer to as 'good luck' can actually be explained by a little knowledge about probability & statistics. *Chances* is a dice game that allows you to see how increasing or decreasing the number of dice rolls affects an outcome.

If you're looking for some educational time-fillers for those times when you finish your lesson plan early & have a few spare minutes, check out the Kids' Zone *Grab Bag* for brainteasers.



## study jams | [studyjams.scholastic.com](http://studyjams.scholastic.com)



Scholastic Study Jams is a collection of over 200 learning resource collections. Study Jams are videos, slide shows, & step-by-step explanations for science & math that will have your students discovering everything from invertebrates to the water cycle & the rule of divisibility. Each Jam includes a teaching video/step-by-step/slide show, key vocabulary, & a test yourself section where they can practice what they have just learned. Each Jam also suggests related jams where students can expand their learning & dig deeper on a subject. This is more like an interactive textbook where each concept is introduced in the context of a story. Students learn the concept from fun Study Jam characters & can pause & rewind the learning as needed. In the test yourself section, students can check for understanding & receive immediate feedback on their learning.

Study Jams is a truly incredible collection of learning opportunities for students. Use Jams to introduce your students to a new concept, or reinforce learning. In Math students can learn about numbers, multiplication & division, addition & subtraction, fractions, decimals & percents, algebra, geometry, measurement, data analysis, probability, & problem solving. Each topic has several sub-topics for students to explore. In science topics include: plants, animals, the human body, ecosystems, landforms, rocks & minerals, weather & climate, solar system, matter, force & motion, energy, light, & sound, & scientific inquiry. Again, each science topic has several sub-topics.

Study Jams can be used as a whole class, as a center activity, or for students to extend their learning.



## zimmer twins

[www.zimmertwins.com](http://www.zimmertwins.com)

Zimmer Twins is a website for kids to make animated short movies. The site features around three characters, Edgar & Eva Zimmer & their black cat, 13. The characters are featured in either short story starters or used for students to create their own stories from scratch.

Students can create a movie without registering, but to save a project they have to be registered users. The site is monitored daily to ensure age appropriate content. It also helps the students to be content creative, & not just a content consumer.

Classroom ideas,

- Students create their own movie or presentation about a historical event, describing a science concept, or in a math story problem
- The site promotes – the writing process, grammar, ESL, social studies, creative writing, & media literacy & production
- Use the site as a story starter



## list of ipod apps elementary ipod touches

See the full list online at LiveBinders  
([bit.ly/l16d0Y](http://bit.ly/l16d0Y))

### Books

- The Cat in the Hat
- Dr. Seuss's ABC
- The Four Seasons
- Miss Spider's Bedtime Story Lite
- Postman Plum Interactive Kids Book

### Music

- Drum Kit Lite
- Kalimba Free
- MiniPiano
- Pocket Shaker

### Math

- Graphs
- Fraction App
- Lobster Diver
- Everyday Mathematic series
- Math Bingo

### Social Studies/Science

- Stack the States
- Google Earth
- Dinosaurs: AMNH Collection
- Discovering Dinosaurs – LAZ Reader
- States & Capitals Free

### Reading

- Wheels on the Bus
- Ladybug's Bookshelf
- BubbleAlpha
- iWriteWords
- Grammar Jammers Primary Edition

### Entertainment

- Doodle Kids
- Launchball
- Tuttle Fruity Free
- Fotobabble
- Mad Libs

# middle school applications

## gimp

[www.gimp.org](http://www.gimp.org)

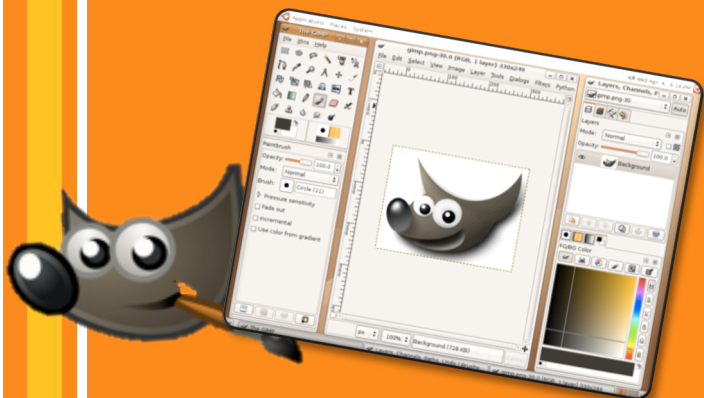
*available in middle school computer labs*

Need an image retouched or edited? **GIMP** (GNU Image Manipulation Program) is a free graphics editor download. It is used for such tasks as photo retouching, image composition, & image authoring. It can be used as a simple paint program, or an expert quality photo retouching program.

GIMP is expandable & extensible. It is designed to be augmented with plug-ins & extensions to do just about anything. The advanced scripting interface allows everything from the simplest task to the most complex image manipulation to be easily completed.

GIMP can be used to,

- Paint
- Resize
- Edit
- Crop
- Combine multiple images
- Convert between different image formats
- Animate



## lino it

[en.linoit.com](http://en.linoit.com)

lino it was discovered when looking for a substitute for *Wall Wisher* ([www.wallwisher.com](http://www.wallwisher.com)) which had become kind of flaky lately. lino is FREE but it requires the creator of the canvas/board to register. Depending on the way you set-up the board, users can post notes to the board without registering, which is great for classroom use. Videos, images, links, & text can be added to the canvas & due dates can also be given to tasks.

This site is worth a look & some teachers are using it as a combination class web site & homework posting site.

- **21st Century Skill:** Communication, Collaboration, & Computers
- Now available for the iPod & iPad



## photo booth | available in all labs, carts, & teacher computers

Photo Booth is a fun application that makes it easy to take photos & create videos using the built-in iSight camera in your Mac.

Effects can be applied by clicking on the "Effects" button when taking a photo or by taping a video. In addition, users can apply backdrops. These provide an effect similar to a green screen. When a backdrop is selected, a message appears telling the user to step away from the camera. Once the background is analyzed, the user steps back in front of the camera & is shown in front of the chosen backdrop.

Videos & photos can be easily imported into most other documents. Great way to have students create a fun podcast.



## list of ipod apps

### middle school ipod touches

See the full list online at LiveBinders ([bit.ly/l16d0Y](http://bit.ly/l16d0Y)).

#### Math

- Algebra
- Convert Units for Free
- Brain Game 3
- Free Graphing Calculator
- Number Line

#### Science

- Dangerous Volcanoes
- Cosmic Discoveries
- Explore the Animal Kingdom Free
- NASA
- Space Images

#### Language Arts

- Free Word Warp
- iBooks
- Mark Twain Collection

#### Social Studies

- Greek Gods Free

#### Games

- Alpha Runner
- Angry Birds Free
- Animal Puzzle Lite
- BiiBall 3D Lite
- Deca Color Sudoku

# high school applications



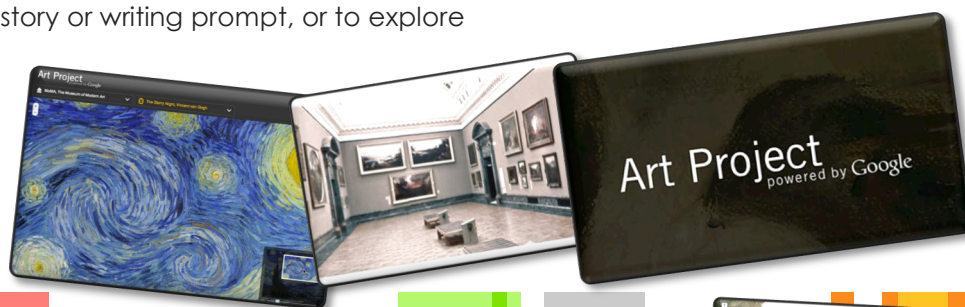
## art project, powered by google

[www.googleartproject.com](http://www.googleartproject.com)

The Art Project powered by Google features interior tours of seventeen world famous art museums. Select a museum from the list on the homepage & you can virtually tour it using the same interface style you experience in Google Maps Streetview. Inside the museum, just double click to zoom to a location. You can also open a floor plan overview & click on a room to navigate to that part of the museum.

The best part of the Art Project powered by Google is the option to create your own artwork collection while visiting each museum. As you're touring a museum click on the "+" symbol on any work of art see it in greater detail, to add it to your collection, & to open background information about that work of art. To create a collection you must be signed into a Google account.

This is a great way to start a story or writing prompt, or to explore history & cultures.



## google maps | [maps.google.com/maps](http://maps.google.com/maps)

Google Maps is a service for creating map information. It enables you & your students to look up & study addresses anywhere in the U.S., & in many other countries & get point-to-point, draggable directions plotted on an interactive street map.



More than just a tool for finding a location or getting directions from point A to B, Google Maps allows students to design their own annotated maps. Create a historical walking tour of Plattsburgh, share a 20 mile bike route complete with drink & restroom stops, measure distance & compare routes taken by car with those on foot (eg. I can walk across Central Park, but driving my car through Strawberry Fields isn't an option). Google Lit Trips ([www.googlelitrips.org](http://www.googlelitrips.org)) has used this tool to track plots in literature; students could make their own lit trip from a book not featured & maybe even contribute to the site - besides expanding their knowledge!

Never used Google Maps before? Be sure to check out the Getting Started Guide. You might be surprised to see how easy it is to incorporate maps into your existing lesson plans. Here are some ideas for using Google Maps in your classroom,

- [www.google.com/educators/p\\_maps.html](http://www.google.com/educators/p_maps.html)
- [docs.google.com/presentation/view?id=dhn2vcv5\\_722cdqx4vdk](https://docs.google.com/presentation/view?id=dhn2vcv5_722cdqx4vdk)
- [edte.ch/blog/maths-maps](http://edte.ch/blog/maths-maps)

## google sketchup

[sketchup.google.com](http://sketchup.google.com)

*available in middle & high school computer labs*

Google SketchUp is software that you can use to create 3D models of anything you like. It is a free engineering & architectural 3D software. Most people get rolling with SketchUp in just a few minutes, with help from the built-in **Instructor**. There are dozens of video tutorials, an extensive **Help Center**, & a worldwide user community for additional support. There are lots of premade models available through the **3D Warehouse** that speeds up the design process. Create a video walk through after you are done with your model & export it to Google Earth.

Curriculum ideas,

- **Math** – explore measurement & geometry concepts, calculate volume & surface area
- **Science** – create model of invention, compete for best bridge design, build a visitor center that spans the Grand Canyon, build a cell, design a roller coaster
- **Social Studies** – design a walk through of famous historical buildings, build a virtual museum
- **Language Arts** – write & record an audio narration to accompany a walk through, design a scene from a book

Check out some examples of SketchUp in education at

[sketchup.google.com/community/casestudies.html](http://sketchup.google.com/community/casestudies.html).



## list of ipod apps

### high school ipod touches

See the full list online at LiveBinders ([bit.ly/I16d0Y](http://bit.ly/I16d0Y)).

#### Language Arts

- POETRY
- Poem Flow
- Rhyme Free
- Shakespeare

#### Science

- Cosmic
- NASA
- Planets
- Moon Globe
- TCT Lite (Periodic Table)

#### Social Studies

- History Maps
- Presidents
- StreetMuseum
- Google Earth
- Fotopedia Heritage
- Today's Document

#### Reference

- Merriam-Webster Dictionary
- Dictionary.com
- Thesarus.com

#### Art

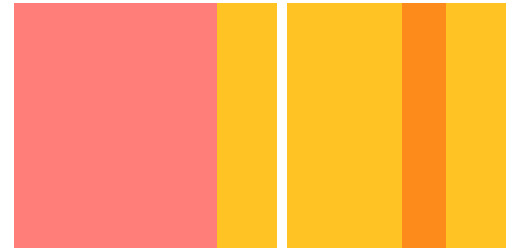
- Louvre
- Comic Touch
- Doodle Buddy

#### Misc

- Spanish Tutor 24/7
- AskPhil
- TED Talks
- Evernote
- Dragon Dictation
- Skype



# activinspire lessons



## fill tool

### flipchart: the magic fill tool

The **Fill Tool** (or also referred to as the Paint Bucket) cannot only add color to backgrounds & shapes, but to words too. Select the Fill Tool, a color, & then click on a word to change its color. This is a great activity for finding parts of speech.



You can reverse the effect, by making the text the same color as the background. Then select the Fill Tool, and change the background color to reveal the answer. Take a look at the samples on the flipchart to see all the different ways & ideas to use this simple technique.

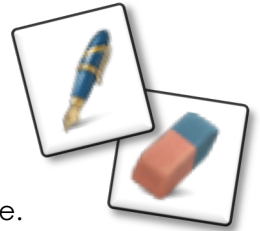
Examples provided in flipchart,

- adjectives, decimals, angles, commutative & associate properties, Name the Shapes, Find the Letter, Is it a Fish or an Animal?, & counting

## rub & reveal

### flipchart: rub & reveal

Did you know you could use your **Eraser** to reveal answers on your flipcharts? This technique is called **Rub & Reveal**. It is a simple tool that helps make a flipchart interactive.



Flipcharts are built on layers with all text, images, & shapes placed on the middle layer. You can hide your answer with an **Annotation (Pen Tool)** that is automatically placed on the top layer. Since it is on the top layer, it covers anything beneath it. The trick is to cover your answer with the Pen that is the same color as your background. You can then use your Eraser to erase the pen mark, & it reveals the answer underneath. Also be sure to use a Pen width that is about size 20.

Examples provided in flipchart,

- Parts of a Letter, Name the Greek God, What Type of Cloud, order of operations, matching lowercase & uppercase letters, & naming opposites

## translucent revealer | flipchart: translucent revealer



Another simple trick, is to use the **Translucency Slider** to reveal answers. Place another object on top of what you are trying to hide. Select the top object, & use the Translucency Slider found in the **Marquee Handle** to make the top object invisible, revealing the answer underneath. The Translucency Slider has now become a **Translucent Revealer**. You can also reverse this, by making your answer invisible, & using the slider to turn it visible. Check out the samples in the flipchart to see it in action.

Examples provided in flipchart,

- synonyms, word problems, patterns, Label the Planets, naming the shapes, & Name the Baby Animals



## page & notes browser | flipchart: intro to the browsers

Two basic browsers that are the easiest to use are the **Page & Notes Browsers**.



Tips for using the Page Browser,

- Click on a page to be taken directly to it
- Click & drag a page or multiple pages to reorder or to another flipchart
- To select multiple pages, select a page, & then hold "command" on your keyboard
- Use the **Slider** to change the thumbnail size
- If you have a page that you designed & liked, you can **Duplicate** the page & use it like a template
- Use the **Popup Menu** to work with the page

Tips for using the Notes Browser,

- When you see a "yellow sticky note" near the right hand corner of your screen, that means you have notes to view in your browser
- The Notes Browser is a place for teachers to write notes, clues, or directions about what should happen on a flipchart page

## resource browser



### flipchart: intro to the browsers

The **Resource Browser** is where you will find all your images & backgrounds. Remember *Primary* users, to access the Resource Browser click the icon in your toolbox. Below are tips for icons located in the Resource Browser,

- **My Resources** – Store or access any resources you created yourself. We back these up.
- **Shared Resources** – To access the resources that were installed with ActivInspire
- **Search Box** – Type any keyword to search through the resources
- **Start Search** – Start searching once you have a keyword in the search box
- **Show Search Options** – Customize what you are searching for
- **Search Resources on Promethean Planet** – Opens the *Promethean Planet* website in your Internet browser
- **Resource Library Settings** – Change the view of your resources or make the background color of an image transparent
- **Rubber Stamp** – Quickly inset multiple copies of a resource into your flipchart
- **Resource Edit Menu** – Allows you to rename or delete a resource

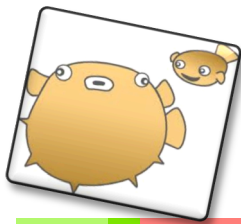
# websites 2 check out



## bitly

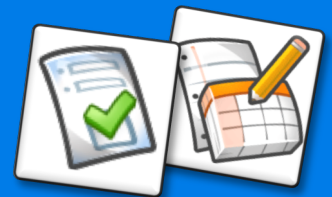
[bitly.com](http://bitly.com)

bitly is an online service that allows you to take a long URL & shorten it (an example was used to shorten the GoAnimate! videos). When someone clicks on the bitly link, it redirects them to the actual URL. It also keeps track of your history of shortened URLs, & the number of times your shortened URL was clicked. This is great for sharing sites, articles, & examples for students & others.



## flubaroo | [www.flubaroo.com](http://www.flubaroo.com)

Flubaroo is a free script that you can use to grade the quizzes you create using Form in Google Docs. Flubaroo provides great step-by-step directions for using the script. First, create your multiple choice quiz using Forms in Google Docs. Then take the quiz yourself & have students take the quiz. Google Docs places all the answered questions to a Form into a Spreadsheet. Now instead of trying to grade the spreadsheet, you will insert the Flubaroo script by selecting it from the Insert menu in your spreadsheet. Once the Flubaroo script is inserted, just select it & it will grade the quiz for you.



## space sites

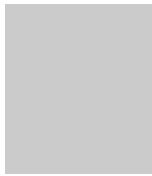
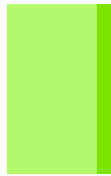
### interactive universe & solar system scope

History Chanel's Interactive Universe (<http://bit.ly/OAfilhd>) is a stroll through our solar system & beyond. Filled with multiple images & information about the planets & other bodies in space.

Solar System Scope ([www.solarsystemscope.com](http://www.solarsystemscope.com)) is a flash based 3D model of the planets in our solar system & the night sky. Use different views to view the planets & constellations by dragging the planets & view with your mouse. There are a lot of interesting settings, which allows you to observe motions & events. The site is still being develop, so many more features to come.

Use Solar System Scope & the Interactive Universe to allow students a hand on exploration experience.





## random name selector

<http://bit.ly/NcNVDA>

Random Name Selector is a random name selector, like drawing a name out a hat or reading it off a popsicle stick. It is a simple tool for picking names of students. To use the selector just type in or copy & paste a list of student names then hit "go." Once a name is selected, the computer reads the name, & you then have the option of launching a two minute or seven minute countdown timer. You can also have the ability to remove a name from the list after it has been selected. If you would like to save the list, click save & it will give you a short *bitly* URL that will take you to your saved list.

